

Rush Derricks In New Oil Boom

Torrance Herald



NINTH YEAR

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, JULY 27, 1923

NO. 30

JULIAN SEWS UP LOMITA LAND FOR DRILLING SOON

Secures 28 Scattered Acres S. E. of New Well

30 DAY CLAUSES

Famous Operator Will Spud In Soon, He Says

C. C. Julian, noted above everything else for his uncanny ability to locate oil, has secured drilling rights on 28 scattered acres in and near Lomita and will start drilling on some of the property within 30 days.

This information was obtained from Julian himself Wednesday afternoon in Los Angeles by the editor of The News Letter.

Julian's land department has been busy for several days in the vicinity of Lomita and Torrance, according to Julian, who is especially attracted to the district southeast of the Midway Northern well.

Julian's interest in territory to the southeast of the Sepulveda lease adds weight to the contention that the structure runs in that direction.

30-Day Drilling

"Some of our leases," said Julian "call for immediate drilling, and we expect to be on location in more than one place within 30 days."

The past few days have witnessed greatly stimulated leasing activities south of the Midway Northern well. The district has become a mecca for most of the oil men and "lease hounds" of California. Owners of unleased land have been constantly singled out for interviews and offered propositions of all sorts.

Several important deals have been consummated, some with short-time drilling clauses in lieu of large bonuses.

Mrs. Frank DeWitt, owner of an acre at Fir and Pennsylvania avenues, has leased, but is not willing to make the details public yet.

The lot on the northwest corner of Pepper and Narbonne was leased during the week by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Forest to a Los Angeles oil company. The company paid a bonus of \$500 and agreed to drill in 90 days. A rental of \$20 a month will be paid.

Lease Elgin Property

Bush & Voorhis, wealthy independent producers of Signal Hill and former directors of the Nash Motor Car company of Kenosha Wis., have entered the district extensively. These operators this week leased half an acre on East Elgin paying no bonus but agreeing to spud in within 90 days. Bush & Voorhis have under lease two acres on Pine and one on Acacia west of Narbonne.

The W. G. Bell acre on Pine street has been leased by the George F. Getty interests, who paid a bonus of \$1,000.

The drilling clause in the Fortune Oil company's lease on the Perham property has been extended 60 days but the company this week was hauling lumber for a derrick on the Pehnis property on Acacia street, Lomita, between Narbonne and Pennsylvania.

TO BUILD NEW BUILDING FOR BUICK AGENCY

Jack Phillips Announces Construction Plans

Construction will begin within the next ten days on the new building to be erected on Cabrillo avenue, just south of the Palmer service station, by "Valve-in-Head" Phillips of San Pedro.

The modern brick building will cover the entire lot, 45 by 112 feet, and will contain a garage, service and show rooms. The latter, facing Cabrillo avenue, will house five Buick models.

On a balcony over the garage will be stored a complete assortment of Buick parts. A wash rack will be part of the garage equipment.

The new Buick establishment will be under the management of general manager "Billy" Peightal, former manager of the San Pedro-Redondo stage line. Mr. Peightal is well known and unusually popular in both Torrance and Lomita, and the business men are well pleased with this addition to their ranks.

Mr. Peightal says that "service is the fondest thing I is of, and Buick owners, old and new, may count on us to the limit."

CENTRAL EVANGELICAL CHURCH H. V. Adams will occupy the Central Evangelical pulpit at both morning and evening services Sunday, July 29.

REFINERY RUNNING IN 6 MONTHS SAYS JULIAN

STAGE SET FOR GREAT FIESTA

Standard Speeds Drill For Deeper Oil Sands

TUESDAY WILL SEE FIESTA OPEN TO PUBLIC

Attractions Promise to Excel Others Of Past

SUPPORT LEGION

Merchants and Industries Assure a Big Success

After weeks of planning and strenuous work, the fourth annual Torrance Exposition and Fiesta, to be conducted under the auspices of the Bert S. Crossland post, No. 179, American Legion, is rapidly getting into shape for the opening day on Tuesday, July 31. For five days ending on Saturday, Aug. 4, the grounds on Cabrillo street between the Ford garage and the Palmer service station will be the scene of fun and festivity.

The huge arch which marks the entrance to the fiesta has already been erected, and the tents which house the exhibits of the automobile dealers and merchants are up. The grounds present an atmosphere of activity, with exhibitors and concessionaires getting their booths and displays ready for the opening.

Get Splendid Support

The list of attractions gathered together by the American Legion for the great summer event of Torrance is a lengthy one and gives promise of making this the best fiesta Torrance has ever had. It is expected that, as usual, the main points of interest will be the displays of the local merchants and manufacturers of Torrance, with the auto show holding a strong place in the interest of the crowds.

One whole tent, 60 feet in length, will be devoted to displays of business men of Torrance, and the roster of exhibitors includes all of the progressive merchants of this city.

Among those who have signed up for space are the First National bank, La Plante's studio, Rappaport's, Fess Grocery, Tomkin's Wall Paper and Paint company, Lee's Market, Huddleston furniture store, Tom Bartlett, Nelson & Brooks Cabinet Works, Park's plumbing shop, Torrance Music company, Sam Levy, Paige's Market, Smith electrical shop, Torrance Breeze; T. J. Tonkin, florist; Gedal Soap company, Tom Allen, Torrance Chamber of Commerce, and Torrance Realty Board. It is also expected exhibits will be installed by the Lomita Chamber of Commerce, the Redondo Chamber of Commerce, and the Long Beach Chamber of Commerce.

Great Auto Show

The auto show, which will be contained in a separate tent, would be a credit to a much larger community than Torrance. Schultz Peckham & Schultz will display Fords and Lincolns, the Day and Night Garage will show Chevrolets and the Palmer Service Station and the White Garage will both have handsome displays.

Out-of-town dealers in cars which as yet have no agencies in Torrance include Rahm & Son, showing the Overland and Velle, Mellich & Rutledge with the Star and Durant Tenan & Boas will display the Cleveland and Dodge, and Griffin Paul has the Dodge, and Griffin the Buick. In addition to a remarkable display of cars, large numbers of accessories for the convenience of the motoring public will be shown.

And Fun, Too

Of course no fiesta would be complete without sideshows and various amusement devices, and the committee in charge promises that there will be plenty of clean, healthy

DUTY AND FUN

Five years ago the guns were roaring over the Western front. The United States was proud of the men in khaki. Nothing would be too good for them when they got back. Remember? Some of those boys are putting on a Fiesta that will be a credit to Torrance. Your attendance will help them and give you a good time as well.

SHELL IS BEHIND STANDARD IN DEEP SAND SEARCH

Big Companies Push Drill to Low Depths For This District

4875 FEET DOWN

Felker Community No 1 Sets A Record For Field

With the Felker Community No. 1 drilling at a depth of 4875 feet the Standard Oil company has taken the lead in deep drilling in the Torrance field. The Felker well is about 400 yards west of the western limits of Torrance and the same distance north of the Torrance-Redondo boulevard.

The Standard's field men are not speculating in advance on the possibilities of picking up a deeper sand, but declare that the company is going to give the west section of the field a thorough test.

The Shell Oil company, the pioneers in deep drilling in Southern California fields, started pioneering in this field with Redondo No. 1 on its lease midway between Torrance and Redondo, but has fallen behind the Standard in the race for the lower sands. While on various occasions it has been given out that the Shell's Redondo No. 1 was below 4800 feet, it was learned yesterday that the well was only 4790 feet.

The Standard is drilling with rotary tools and the Shell with a standard rig, which accounts for the greater speed being made by the Standard Oil crew. The Standard holds the record for the world's deepest well with rotary equipment. This well was drilled near Bois-Chica on an old Torrance estate lease and was put down 6600 feet. It cost more than a quarter of a million dollars.

JULIAN TO BE FORUM GUEST ON AUGUST 6th

C. of C. Invites the Oil Producer and "C. C." Accepts

C. C. Julian, the most talked-about independent oil producer in California, and who has chosen a site at the doorway of Torrance for his huge refinery, will be an honor guest at the next meeting of the Torrance Open Forum, August 6. An invitation to the "Harry Sinclair" of California was extended this week by Harry Gadeky, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, acting under instructions from the board of directors. Julian accepted and said "he'd be there." Mr. Julian will be guest before the meeting at a dinner given by the directors of the chamber. On this occasion he will be formally welcomed to Torrance.

ELEVEN WELLS SPEEDED UP IN SOUTH SECTION

Vicinity of Midway Northern Like Gold Camp

INVEST FORTUNES

\$750,000 Cost as Big Companies Hurry The Work

With 217 feet of oil string set, the crew on the Midway Northern well on the Sepulveda lease was busy bailing out Thursday and momentarily expected to bring in the well as we went to press.

Scores of persons waited near the derrick to see the well come in.

Oil men from many large companies were present. With the rush of material for new derricks to the district, the old Redondo road was one of the busiest highways in California.

Eleven new wells! That is the startling development in the Torrance field since Monday of this week, which outstrips the new operations in any other field in Southern California during the same period.

Like mushrooms, derricks are springing up throughout the southern section of the field, with the chief cluster around the new Midway Northern producer.

The estimated cost of putting down the 11 new wells is three-quarters of a million dollars.

Last week four wells were started and next week four others will be put under way.

Only A Start

And still the field is only being scratched. The number of rigs in the field last week was 62, and this week the number has been increased to 73.

With almost unbelievable swiftness the Torrance field has grown from the infant of the petroleum world to one of its most promising giants. The search for oil is leading in all directions and a large number of the new wells are in hitherto unproven territory.

The greatest part of the new activity centers around the Midway Northern's big well. Since Monday of this week this section has taken on the aspects of a gold rush. Hundreds of people daily are making pilgrimages to the well, and on all sides men are at work unloading trucks of lumber and oil well supplies and paving the way for the new wells.

Like A Race

The spirit of the race prevails as the rival crews work side by side. Just west of the Midway Northern well the rig builders are working on the Petroleum Midway's derrick, the first of this company in the east section of the field. On the next location west the Selby & Root crew has most of the derrick completed, while still farther to the west, on the south side of Redondo boulevard, the Pan-American (E. L. Doheny) is starting work on the first two wells in the Torrance field. Between the Pan-American holdings and Selby & Root the Sentinel Oil company has a small lease and will be compelled to offset at once.

On the north side of the boulevard the Chanslor Canfield Midway engineering force has located two new wells, one to offset the Petroleum Midway well and the other to offset the Superior Oil company's well, which in turn is offsetting the Chanslor Canfield Midway's Torrance No. 8, now standing cemented at 3223 feet. About 200 feet

NOW AND THEN

Boys of the American Legion have worked hard and faithfully to make this year's Fiesta and Exposition a success in keeping with the good name of Torrance. Business men of the city have supported them admirably. Now it is up to the people to follow suit. The boys fought for us. Now let's fight for them.

WAIT OFFICIAL O. K. ON MAIL DELIVERY HERE

Postmaster Announces Probable Change For City

WAIT INSPECTOR

U. S. Agent Daily Expected To Give Approval

Torrance may soon—very soon—be moved up a peg in Uncle Sam's postoffice classification and be served with carrier mail delivery.

That the gray uniform of the mail carrier would soon be a familiar and welcome sight on Torrance streets was assured this week, when Postmaster Gourdier announced that a United States inspector is expected to visit the city, inspect the local postoffice and put the official O. K. on what Mr. Gourdier has been seeking for a long time.

All that stands between Torrance and the arrival of those welcome postmen is this inspector, and there is little doubt on the part of Mr. Gourdier that any inspector who visualizes the growth of Torrance will approve the new service.

Hampered by lack of space, inadequate appropriation and almost everything else that could stand in the way of service, the Torrance postoffice has overcome all obstacles and given service in the face of the rapid growth of the city.

And all the time the postmaster has been reporting the need for carrier service.

There are no blind inspectors on Uncle Sam's payroll, it is understood, and business men believe that only a blind man would fail to see the need of carrier delivery here.

Just when the inspector will arrive is a matter of conjecture. He may be here any day. He may not put in his appearance for a month. But he is headed this way, Postmaster Gourdier announces.

25 THOUSAND FOR TORRANCE SAYS OSBURN

"I confidently believe that there will be 20,000 or 25,000 people in Torrance within the next three or four years."

This was the statement of M. R. Osburn, president of the Dominguez Land corporation, at Tuesday's meeting of the board of directors of the Chamber of Commerce.

Many Enjoy Dance of Legion Auxiliary

An enthusiastic crowd of dancers pronounced the American Legion Auxiliary dance held last Wednesday evening "the best yet." The floor and music were perfect, and everyone had a delightful time. Best of all, the Auxiliary cleared a nice little sum.

RUSH PLAN ON REFINERY AS HARD CASH ROLLS IN

C. C. Julian to Employ Hundreds in His Torrance Plant

WILL BUILD SPUR

Tells Torrance Men the Details of His Big Project

By W. HAROLD KINGSLEY

Down in Los Angeles in a Leow's State Theatre building office sits the busiest gentleman in the state of California—busy signing notes and receiving tens of thousands of dollars a day—busy making and carrying out plans for a 15,000-barrel-a-day refinery in Torrance.

The office is that of the Juffar Petroleum corporation. And the busy gentleman is none other than C. C. Julian.

If you don't think he is busy, take the elevator up to the third floor and have a look at the scores of investors who are pledging their faith in Julian and backing up these pledges with hard and cold cash.

First a Good Cigar

Then, after the day's rush of signing notes and taking in cash and putting up stock certificates as security—after that is over, you might do as Harry Gadeky and I did—go in and see Julian himself.

He'll offer you a good cigar, remarking that "it's from this box of punk ones that I'm sloughing off on visitors," and then, if you please, he will tell you some interesting news about Torrance, as Torrance affects him and as his plans affect Torrance.

Mr. Gadeky went there to tell Julian that the board of directors of the Chamber of Commerce in Torrance is behind him and supporting him strong, and to invite him to be the guest at the next Forum meeting August 6. Harry did his job well, too—and don't think for a minute that "C. C." failed to appreciate both the good word and the invitation. He returned the compliment and accepted the invitation.

"A Good Talker"

"I'll be there," said Julian. "I'm a poor speechmaker, but a good talker."

Then it was my turn, and I asked eight questions:

Question No. 1—"What will be the capacity of the first unit of your refinery to be built on that 231 acres, Mr. Julian?"

"Between 10,000 and 15,000 barrels a day."

Question No. 2—"What will it cost to build it?"

"Five million dollars."

Question No. 3—"How many men will be employed in this first unit?"

"I don't know exactly. Several hundred to begin with."

"Fast Workers"

Question No. 4—"When will it be in operation?"

"In six months."

"That's pretty fast work, isn't it, Mr. Julian?"

"Yes, but we're fast workers," he replied.

Question No. 5—"Can you give me any other details for publication?"

"Yes. Work is going forward rapidly on our tank farm at Santa Fe Springs and our pipe lines. We'll have pipe lines from Santa Fe Springs, Signal Hill, Huntington Beach and the Torrance field to the refinery. The first one from Santa Fe Springs is well under way."

Question No. 6—"How's the financing coming along, Mr. Julian?"

"Almost Third Gone"

He smiled. "We're keeping the old wolf from the door," he said

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